



Fundacion Desaroyo conducts their annual Christmas Concert at the Cas di Cultura

The alumni of “Fundacion Desaroyo, Educativo and Cominitario” filled the halls of the Cas di Cultura on Wednesday evening with classic and regional music of the season during their annual concert. The foundation, devoted to educating the public in all forms of the arts also has an exposition of art and handicrafts of alumni at the Biblioteca Nacional in Oranjestad through the end of the year.

Each year in the month of December the Fundacion Desaroyo showcases the accomplishments of their students who attend weekly classes by professional teachers for a nominal fee. Wednesday’s concert opened with welcoming words by foundation President Maria Caster, and then noted island entertainer Percy Jeandor acted as Master of Ceremonies.

The evening began with a sampling of regional Dande music by clients of FAVI, the Foundation for the Visually Impaired. Elisabeth Sanchez, Gino Wever, Michael Solognier and Betto Maduro performed under the direction of Piert de Cuba.

The evening then continued with a number of musical numbers on the guitar and cuarta, a regional instrument, resembling a small acoustical guitar. Jerry Diaz and Huber Martis were followed by soloists Gilly Dijkhoff, and Myron Tromp. Lucio Rivadenera performed three traditional Christmas classics, and a percussion group consisting of Lidrick Solognier, Michael Bremono, Jennifer v/d Biezen and Vio Wester, accompanied by on bass performed a large selection of regional music.

The first half of the evening ended with the Big Band sound and classic Christmas Music such as “Deck the Halls” and “The Christmas Song” of Mel Torme.

The second half of the evening included a performance on the regional instruments of the Caha di Orgel and wiri by Elias Halabi and Basilio Geerman under the direction of the acknowledged master of the instruments, “Buchi” Boekhoudt.

The family van Heyningen, consisting of Daniel, Theresa and Joanne regaled the audience with classic music from Beethoven and Bach, and the Trans Siberian Orchestra performed on modern electric guitar. A full evening of music finished with classic Gaita, the holiday music of the region and a mix of contemporary and classic holiday music from the Big Band Orchestra of the FDEC.

In her welcome address, President Maria Caster thanked all those that give of their time to make the FDEC program a success, not only the teachers, the tireless efforts of Stanley Dabian of the Instituto di Cultura, but the alumni as well. Without their enthusiasm and growing participation there would be no wonderful Christmas Concert!